

Appl. No. 10/634,585
Amdt. Dated December 9, 2005
Response to Office Action Dated October 28, 2005

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the final Office Action dated October 28, 2005. In that action the Examiner: 1) rejected claims 10-11, 14, 17-21 and 24 as allegedly obvious over Thompson and Nichols; and 2) indicated the allowance of claims 12-13, 15-16, 22-23 and 25-26.

With this Response, Applicants amend claims 10 and 20, and cancel the previously withdrawn claims 1, 3, 6, 9 and 29-31.

I. ALLOWED CLAIMS

Applicants appreciate allowance of claims 12-13, 15-16, 22-23 and 25-26.

II. CANCELLED CLAIMS

With this Response, Applicants cancel previously withdrawn claims 1, 3, 6, 9 and 29-31 without prejudice to later asserting those claims, such as in a divisional application.

III. SUBSTANCE OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW

On November 15, 2005 the Applicants, by and through the undersigned attorney, held a telephonic interview with Examiner Ledynh. The Nichols reference was specifically discussed. No claims were specifically discussed. No agreements were reached.

IV. ART-BASED REJECTIONS

Claims 10-11, 14, 17-21 and 24 stand rejected as allegedly obvious over Thompson and Nichols. Applicants amend claims 10 and 20 to more clearly define over the system of Nichols which discloses "a series of relays controlled by a circuit in the borehole processing system," but is silent as to precisely how the control signals are applied to the relays. Applicants respectfully submit that Thompson and Nichols fail to teach or suggest "an antenna tuning circuit comprising a relay having a coil, the coil coupled to a signal line that carries a signal applied to the transmitting antenna, wherein a control signal for the antenna tuning circuit and the signal applied to the transmitting antenna both propagate along the signal line, and wherein the antenna tuning circuit is selectively tunable to obtain a plurality of resonant frequencies" as recited in claim 10. Thus, claim 10, and all claims which depend from claim 10 (claims 11, 14, 17-19), should be allowed.

Likewise, Applicants respectfully submit that Thompson and Nichols fail to teach or suggest "an antenna tuning circuit comprising a relay having a coil, the coil coupled to and

Appl. No. 10/634,585
Amdt. Dated December 9, 2005
Response to Office Action Dated October 23, 2005

configured to receive a control signal from a signal line that carries signals to a first transmitting antenna, wherein the antenna tuning circuit is selectively tunable to obtain a plurality of resonant frequencies" as recited in claim 20. Thus, claim 20 and all claims which depend from claim 20 (claims 21 and 24), should be allowed.

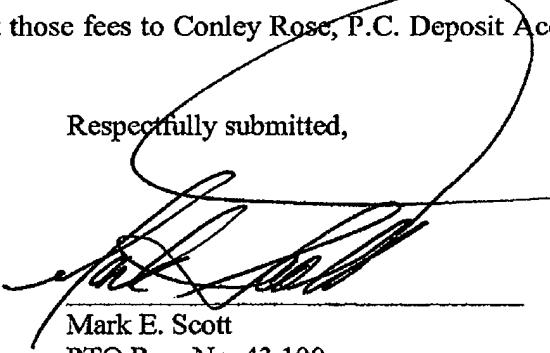
V. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims and a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite the resolution of this case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim elements in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other elements can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each element of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims.

If any fees are inadvertently omitted or if any additional fees are required or have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account Number 03-2769.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark E. Scott
PTO Reg. No. 43,100
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
P. O. Box 3267
Houston, TX 77253-3267
(713) 238-8000 (Phone)
(713) 238-8008 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS